



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
In Cooperation with the West Virginia Department of Agriculture
West Virginia Field Office
1900 Kanawha Blvd E
Charleston, West Virginia 25305



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 31, 2019

Contact: Charmaine Wilson
(304) 357-5126

MILK PRODUCTION, DISPOSITION, AND INCOME

Charleston, West Virginia – Milk production totaled 111 million pounds during 2018, down 16 million pounds from the 2017 production of 127 million pounds. The average number of milk cows during the year was 7,000 head, down 1,000 head from 2017. Average milk production per cow was 15,857 pounds or around 1,844 gallons, down 18 pounds from the 2017 number of 15,875 pounds.

Cash receipts from marketings of milk during 2018 totaled \$17.9 million, down 20 percent from the 2017 cash receipts number of \$22.3 million. Producer returns averaged \$16.40 per hundredweight, down \$1.60 from 2017. Milk marketed by producers totaled 109 million pounds or 12.7 million gallons in 2018, down 15 million pounds from the 2017 number of 124 million pounds. Marketings include whole milk sold to plants and dealers as well as milk sold directly to consumers.

United States – Milk production increased 1.0 percent in 2018 to 218 billion pounds. The rate per cow, at 23,149 pounds, was 235 pounds above 2017. The annual average number of milk cows on farms was 9.40 million head, down 7,000 head from 2017.

Cash receipts from marketings of milk during 2018 totaled \$35.2 billion, 7.1 percent lower than 2017. Producer returns averaged \$16.28 per hundredweight, 8.0 percent below 2017. Marketings totaled 216.6 billion pounds, 0.9 percent above 2017. Marketings include whole milk sold to plants and dealers and milk sold directly to consumers.

An estimated 1.02 billion pounds of milk were used on farms where produced, 2.6 percent more than 2017. Calves were fed 91 percent of this milk, with the remainder consumed in producer households.

Note: A conversion of 8.6 pounds per gallon was used.